

Remarks/Arguments:

Pending claims 70-78 stand allowed.

The instant amendment is submitted to correct the error occasioned by filing (and entry of) the Rule 312 Amendment on August 18, 2004 (entered pursuant to the Office communication mailed September 21, 2004), as explained below.

Claim 70 was amended under Rule 312 by revising paragraphs "c)" and "d)" to read:

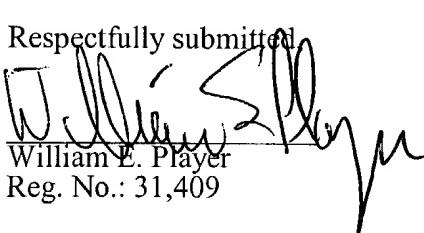
- c) the antisense oligonucleotide does not contain four or more consecutive elements within the target nucleic acid sequence,
- d) the antisense oligonucleotide does not contain two or more series of three consecutive elements within the target nucleic sequence.

Impropriety of the inserted (underlined) text is readily apparent. Since "the antisense oligonucleotide does not contain four or more consecutive elements," these "four or more consecutive elements" *cannot be, also*, "within the target nucleic acid sequence," because the "target nucleic acid sequence" *is not located in* the "antisense oligonucleotide." As recited in line 3 of claim 70, the "antisense oligonucleotide" *corresponds to* "the target nucleic acid sequence." The same reasoning essentially applies with respect to impropriety of the text "within the target nucleic sequence" inserted in paragraph "d)" of claim 70. The error, occasioned by the 312 amendment, is regretted.

Favorable action is requested.

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Respectfully submitted
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